AH... GH... AAAGH!
SHIA! HOLD ON!
LAAZASSHIA! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?!
HOLD HER DOWN! YOU NEED TO GET THAT NEEDLE OUT!

WHAT? WHAT'S WITH THIS NEEDLE?
HAHAHA! YOU'LL NEVER GET IT OUT! ONCE IT'S IN YOU IT'S TOO LATE!
IT'LL JUST KEEP BURROWING INTO HER AND IF YOU'RE TOO ROUGH IT'LL BREAK RELEASING THE POISON WITHIN
CAUSING HELLISH PAIN AS HER BODY ROTS!
ここまでして意趣返しできないなら IF I CAN JUST GET BACK AT HIM FOR FOILING OUR PLOT I'LL BE HAPPY
IT SERVES HER RIGHT FOR BETRAYING US! ENJOY THE PAIN
SHUT UP YOU PIECE OF SHIT!

KILL ME...
I KNOW.
CAPTAIN AT THIS RATE...
NOT HAPPENING.
針全
折れ
STRENGTHEN THE NEEDLE SO IT DOESN'T BREAK...
げて
NOW I JUST GET RID OF THE BARBS SO IT CAN BE REMOVED...
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IT'S JUST AN EXPERIMENT... BUT THIS SHOULD DO THE JOB...
EISHA LASANAASHA... HEAL AROUND THE WOUND
WH-
SIR YUUSUKE...
WHAT A RELIEF... AS EXPECTED... YOU MANAGED TO DO IT CAPTAIN...
ALRIGHT... LOOKS LIKE SHE'S FINE NOW... THANKS... YOU TWO

REST FOR NOW
THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU ALL...
IS THAT WHY THEY WENT AFTER LAAZASSHIA?
NO
I... AM A SPY FROM NOSSENTES

SERIOUSLY?
OH DEAR...

SHIA... ISN'T RELATED TO ME IN ANY WAY
SHE WAS ACTUALLY MY SUPERIOR AND WE MET FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THIS MISSION

IT'S LIKELY THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL BE MOVED AROUND
IT'LL TURN INTO A BIG DEAL WHEN WE RETURN TO SANC ADIET
A NUMBER OF OUR NOBLES HAVE TIES TO NOSSENTES DIVINE COUNCIL AFTER ALL

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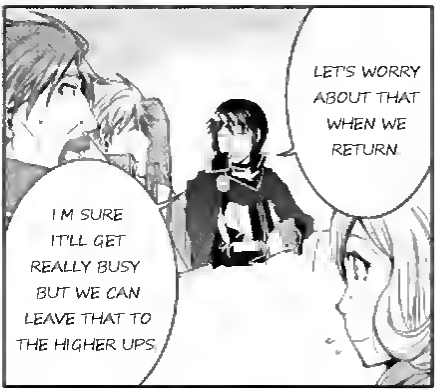

I'M SURE IT'LL GET REALLY BUSY BUT WE CAN LEAVE THAT TO THE HIGHER UPS
LET'S WORRY ABOUT THAT WHEN WE RETURN

HM?
I'M GLAD YOU'VE RETURNED SAFELY, YUUSUKE. THE REST OF YOU ALSO DID WELL.
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
WELCOME BACK, MR. YUUSUKE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK, EVERYONE.

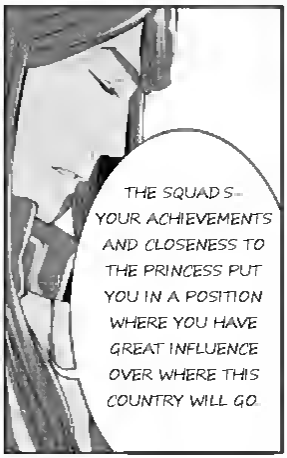
WELL THEN I THINK I'LL GO SEE SOME LADIES
NO IT'S NOTHING ANYWAYS I'M BACK SEEING THE TWO OF YOU IS KIND OF A RELIEF
IT SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S STARTING TO PRONOUNCE MY NAME THE RIGHT WAY
キッ!!
OH I APOLOGIZE FOR THAT PRINCESS
LIMIT IT TO JUST SEEING THEM WE STILL HAVE TO FILE REPORTS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED
JUST DEALING WITH SOMETHING MINOR
HM? YUUSUKE WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
MR YUUSUKE?
.....

SHAYD!
BACK AT THE PORT TOWN WHEN WE WERE TALKING ABOUT WHAT WE'LL BE DOING LATER, YOU LOOKED KINDA UNHAPPY SO
OH, THAT?
CAPTAIN? DID YOU NEED SOMETHING?
NO, IT'S JUST...
HOW I ACT?
WHILE IT'S RATHER NORMAL THAT YOU DON'T SHOW ALL THAT MUCH LOYALTY TOWARDS FONCLANC,
I WAS CONCERNED WITH HOW YOU ACT.

I WAS CONCERNED THAT RATHER THAN SIMPLY WATCHING FROM THE SIDE, YOU HAD NO CONCERN FOR US.
WHILE IT MIGHT SOUND GOOD THAT YOU'RE VIEWING THINGS FROM THE SIDE, IN REALITY IT ISN'T.
YOU WERE ACTING LIKE WHAT HAPPENED THIS TIME OR WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE DOESN'T CONCERN YOU.

.....

SIMILARLY, GAZETTA HAVING DECLARED THEMSELVES YOUR ALLIES HAVE MANAGED TO JUMP ONTO THE STAGE
IF YOUR ENEMIES DON'T DESTROY THEMSELVES YOU AS THE 'EVIL GOD' CAN RUIN THEM


THE SQUAD'S YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND CLOSENESS TO THE PRINCESS PUT YOU IN A POSITION WHERE YOU HAVE GREAT INFLUENCE OVER WHERE THIS COUNTRY WILL GO.

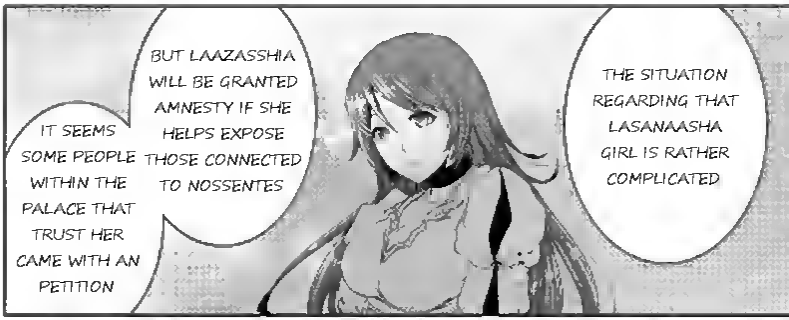
PUTTING THE EVIL GOD STUFF ASIDE, EVERYTHING I'VE DONE WAS PURELY BECAUSE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES
YET YOU DON'T INVOLVE YOURSELF IN POLITICS
YOU HAVE THE POWER AND THE CONNECTIONS
DESPITE YOUR CHOICE TO NOT USE IT, YOU STILL DO SO WHEN THERE'S A REASON FOR IT. YOUR UNWILLINGNESS TO USE IT SAYS THAT YOU HAVE ABANDONED BOTH THE DUTY AND THE RESPONSIBILITY
I BELIEVE THAT THOSE WITH GREAT POWER HAVE A DUTY TO WIELD IT AND DO SO RESPONSIBLY
... THAT IS MY BELIEF AT LEAST
IT IS ONLY POWER IF YOU USE IT. POWER EXISTS TO BE USED. THOSE WITH POWER ARE BORN IN ORDER TO USE THAT POWER TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING

ISN'T THAT A RATHER DANGEROUS THING TO SAY?
IF ANYTHING I WOULD PREFER YOU JUST BECOME THE RULER
ARE YOU TELLING ME TO BECOME A BUREAUCRAT OR SOMETHING?
IT'S SIMPLY ME DAYDREAMING
3 DAYS AFTER THE DARK GOD SQUAD RETURNED

PRINCESS, SIT PROPERLY.
WELL, A COUNTRY WITH A LONG PAST WAS RECENTLY DESTROYED, SO IT'S NATURAL THAT OTHER COUNTRIES ARE AFFECTED AS WELL.
THERE ARE ALSO ALL THOSE OTHERS... THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN MY FATHER'S REIGN THAT SO MANY PEOPLE WERE DISPOSED OF.
VORMEST, THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR ATTACKING THOSE VILLAGES, AND THE COUNT THAT WAS CONNECTED TO HIM WERE EXECUTED.
SHINHA'S THE ONE THAT DESTROYED THEM.
DON'T SAY THAT WHILE LOOKING AT ME
WHAT A TERRIFYING POWER
YOU
UGH... WHAT A TERRIFYING THOUGHT.
PERHAPS I WAS NOT ENTIRELY WRONG ABOUT THAT.
BACK WHEN WE FIRST MET I INITIALLY THOUGHT THAT THE EVIL GOD HAD COME TO DESTROY OUR COUNTRY

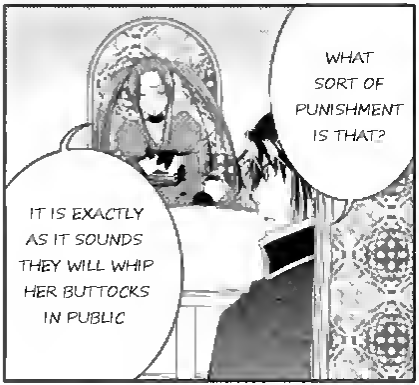
TODAY THEY ARE DISCUSSING
WELL?
WHY ARE THE BUREAUCRATS MAKING A FUSS AGAIN? IS SOMEONE ELSE GOING TO BE REMOVED?
WHAT THEY'RE GONNA DO WITH LASANAASHA AND THE OTHERS?
THEY ARE RATHER TROUBLESOME... FOR EXAMPLE THAT SONG PRINCESS KNOWS THE SECRETS OF MANY BUREAUCRATS
IT IS A BATTLE BETWEEN PEOPLE THAT WISH TO USE HER PEOPLE WHO ARE TROUBLED BY HER EXISTENCE AND PEOPLE WITH SOME LINGERING AFFECTION FOR HER AND NONE OF THEM CAN WIN THIS FIGHT
HMM... THE SONG PRINCESS THE SPY AND THE YOUNG GIRL THAT YUUSUKE BROUGHT BACK?

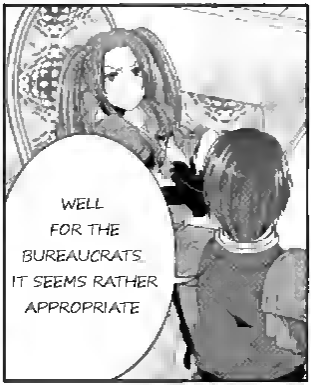
THEY'VE DECIDED TO LEAVE HER WITH SOMEONE WHO CAN MONITOR HER, BUT THAT SOMEONE HASN'T BEEN DECIDED ON.
EXECUTING THEM ALL IS TOO MUCH BECAUSE OF ELFONA, BUT THEY CAN'T EXILE THEM BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY KNOW.
HMM. SO YOU THINK THAT TOO?
WELL, IN THE CASE OF ELFONA...
THE DOCTOR, I GUESS
AS FOR LASANAASHA AND LAAZASSHIA...
CERTAINLY. I DOUBT ANYONE WOULD BE ABLE TO OBJECT TO HIM.
I BELIEVE WE SHOULD PROPOSE THAT THEN.

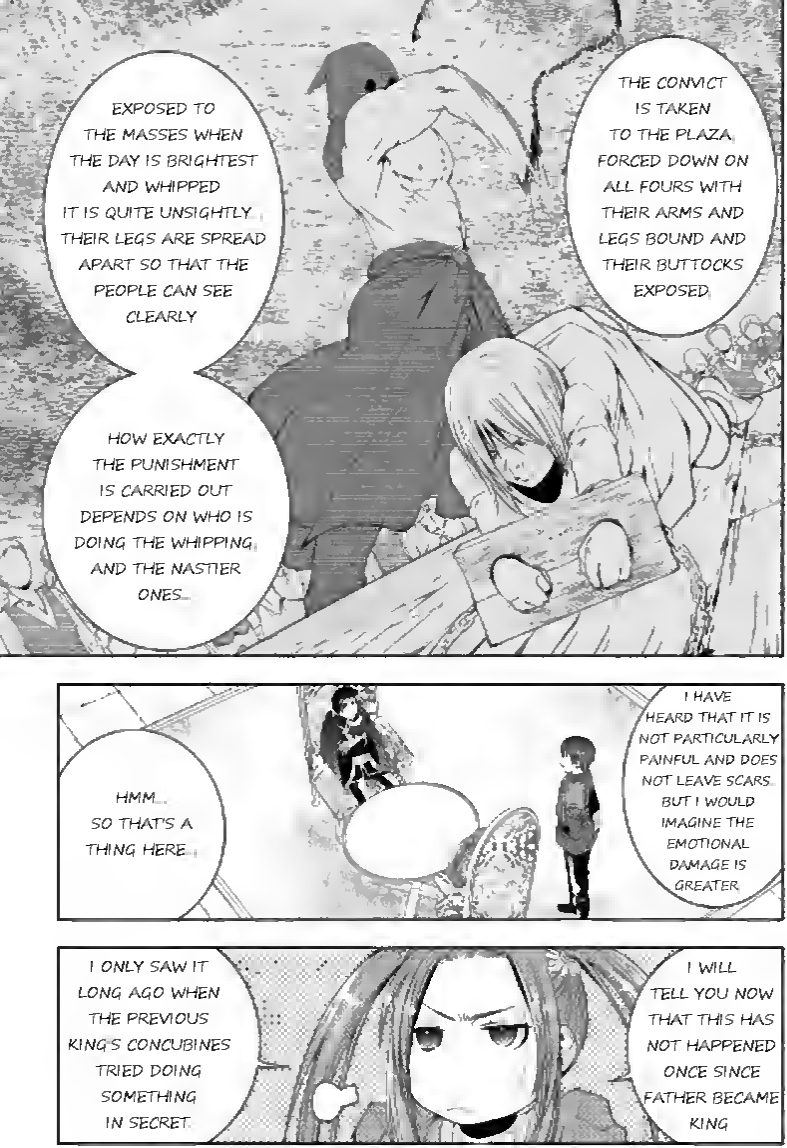

THE SITUATION REGARDING THAT LASANAASHA GIRL IS RATHER COMPLICATED
BUT LAAZASSHIA WILL BE GRANTED AMNESTY IF SHE HELPS EXPOSE THOSE CONNECTED TO NOSSENTES
IT SEEMS SOME PEOPLE WITHIN THE PALACE THAT TRUST HER CAME WITH AN PETITION

MMM BUT TO DECIDE ON THAT...

THAT SAID SIMPLY ACQUITTING HER WOULDN'T BE GOOD FOR THE COUNTRY'S DIGNITY
SO THEY SENTENCED HER TO A BUTTOCKS WHIPPING


WHAT SORT OF PUNISHMENT IS THAT?
IT IS EXACTLY AS IT SOUNDS THEY WILL WHIP HER BUTTOCKS IN PUBLIC


WELL FOR THE BUREAUCRATS IT SEEMS RATHER APPROPRIATE


EXPOSED TO THE MASSES WHEN THE DAY IS BRIGHTEST AND WHIPPED IT IS QUITE UNSIGHTLY. THEIR LEGS ARE SPREAD APART SO THAT THE PEOPLE CAN SEE CLEARLY
THE CONVICT IS TAKEN TO THE PLAZA, FORCED DOWN ON ALL FOURS WITH THEIR ARMS AND LEGS BOUND AND THEIR BUTTOCKS EXPOSED.
HOW EXACTLY THE PUNISHMENT IS CARRIED OUT DEPENDS ON WHO IS DOING THE WHIPPING AND THE NASTIER ONES...
HMM... SO THAT'S A THING HERE.
I HAVE HEARD THAT IT IS NOT PARTICULARLY PAINFUL AND DOES NOT LEAVE SCARS. BUT I WOULD IMAGINE THE EMOTIONAL DAMAGE IS GREATER.
I ONLY SAW IT LONG AGO WHEN THE PREVIOUS KING'S CONCUBINES TRIED DOING SOMETHING IN SECRET.
I WILL TELL YOU NOW THAT THIS HAS NOT HAPPENED ONCE SINCE FATHER BECAME KING.

KREIVOL... WHILE YOU SAY THIS IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE BUREAU-CRATS...
I SIMPLY SEE THEM AS TRYING TO MONOPOLIZE THAT SONG PRINCESS.
...WOULDN'T THAT BE RATHER...
...SAY THE FACT THAT THEY'RE BEING PUNISHED IS TRUE RIGHT?
WELL... YES
IN THAT CASE I WANT TO BE THE ONE IN CHARGE OF HANDLING IT.
WH-